

Dear SIC Members and Supporters:

This issue of *SIC Clips & Quips* (Volume 6, Issue 6) is sent to share information of special interest to our state's School Improvement Councils.

SC-SIC Annual Meeting Scheduled for March 22 – Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend the 2014 SC-SIC Annual Meeting, **Saturday, March 22**, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, at St. Andrews Middle School in Columbia. The theme of this year's meeting will be "The Power of Partnerships – Making the Most of What You've Got," and will feature a variety of sessions and information for local SICs as they plan goals, strategize actions and identify resources at their disposal. Sessions scheduled thus far include an overview on SC-SIC's "Engagement to Outcomes" pilot project, Mr. Frank White (formerly of the SC Department of Education) with an entertaining look at building involvement and partnerships, updates from past Riley Award for SIC Excellence winners, and presentations from the five finalists for this year's Riley Award. A highlight of the meeting will be the announcement of 2014's recipient of the prestigious Riley Award. The registration cost of \$30 includes meeting materials, a continental breakfast and buffet lunch. The registration form can be found on the home page of the SC-SIC website, <http://sic.sc.gov>. Just fill out the form, print it, and follow the directions to either mail it or fax it in. Advance registration is required **no later than Monday, March 17**, as there will be no on-site registration the day of the meeting. Keep watching your email and the SC-SIC website for updated information. We look forward to seeing you at the 2014 SC-SIC Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 22!

Staff Changes at the SC School Improvement Council – After 14 years of service to SICs across the state, SC-SIC Executive Director Cassie Barber recently accepted a new position as Executive Director of the Alabama Chapter of the ALS Association. SC-SIC Associate Director Tom F. Hudson has been designated by the Dean of the USC College of Educator to serve as Interim Executive Director. Cassie's passion for our state's SIC's and student will be missed and we wish her well as she returns to her hometown of Huntsville, AL, and begins a new chapter in her life and career. SC-SIC is also very pleased to welcome three new part-time Council Specialists who will work directly with identified schools and SICs in two areas of the state, providing them with training, on-site visits, and targeted technical assistance and resources. Serving SICs in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) region will be Dr. Sallie Cooks, former 12-year member and chair of the Edgefield County School Board. A past CSRA and Edgefield County Woman of the Year, Dr. Cooks has been a volunteer behavior specialist at Edgefield County's Strom Thurmond High and has served as a juvenile arbitrator for the 11th Circuit Solicitor's Office. Dr. Cooks is both a SC Education Policy Fellow (2010) and Global Education Policy Fellow (2011). Serving SICs in the Pee Dee region will be Ms. Martha A. Hannah and Ms. Jane Ellen Brandis. Ms. Hannah recently retired from the Lee County School District after 29 years as a guidance counselor in that district, Williamsburg County School District, Sumter County School District, and Clarendon School District One. During her career, Ms. Hannah has served as a local SIC member, as coordinator of the Parent Education Program, has conducted in-service and training sessions for faculty and staff, and served as a certified ADEPT evaluator. Ms. Brandis is currently Assistant Professor of Education and Coordinator of Clinical Experiences at Francis Marion University. A former elementary classroom teacher and school-level curriculum coordinator in Florence School District One, Ms. Brandis has prior service as a local SIC member and a member of the Florence School District Three SACS Accreditation Committee. Council Specialists Cooks, Hannah and Brandis will begin making contact and appointments with District Contacts, principals and SICs in their respective regions in the coming weeks.

Remember, *SIC Clips & Quips* is sent to all SIC members and supporters who share their email addresses with us. Please feel free to print out and share this information with fellow SIC members who may not have received it. We are here to help you, so please contact us any time!

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